

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 01671 061251Z

43

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SY-04

SAB-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 IO-14 SAM-01 /108 W

----- 049244

R 060959Z SEP 74

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6064

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 1671

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, IS, XF

SUBJ: CHRISTIAN VIEWS ON CAPUCCI

1. IN MY BRIEF CONTACTS WITH CONSULAR CORPS COLLEAGUES AND CHRISTIAN CHURCH PEOPLE SINCE MY RETURN TO JERUSALEM, I FIND A GENERAL ASSUMPTION THAT CAPUCCI DID IN FACT RUN GUNS FOR FEDAYEEN. THERE IS DIFFERENCE OF VIEW ABOUT WHETHER HE WAS IN OTHER RESPECTS FATAH AGENT AND WHETHER HE WAS DOING IT FOR MONEY ALONE OR OUT OF ARAB PATRIOTISM. CAPUCCI HAS REPUTATION OF WOMANIZER AND HIGH LIVER AND EASTERN CLERGY GENERALLY ARE CONSIDERED PRONE TO TURNING A PROFIT WHEN OPPORTUNITY AFFORDS.

2. THERE IS SOME CONCERN THAT AFFAIR INCREASES VULNERABILITY OF CHURCHES IN THEIR EFFORTS TO RETAIN FREEDOM FROM ISRAELI INTERFERENCE. THEY WILL BE WATCHING CLOSELY FOR ANY SIGN THAT THIS IS THE CASE.

3. MAYOR KOLLEK WENT OUT OF HIS WAY IN STATEMENT AT PUBLIC CEREMONY SEPTEMBER 1 TO PRAISE GREEK ORTHODOX CLERGY AS DECENT

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CITIZENS OF JERUSALEM. HE TOLD ME AFTERWARDS THAT, BECAUSE OF

SIMILARITY IN GARB, GREEK ORTHODOX CLERGY HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO
CRITICISM BY ISRAELIS IN BELIEF THAT THEY WERE MEMBERS OF SAME
CHURCH AS CAPUCCI (WHO IS GREEK CATHOLIC).
DAY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: SMUGGLING, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, ARRESTS, CHURCH STATE RELATIONS
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Draft Date: 06 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Errors: N/A
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